

Seminar kindly sponsored by:



Local placemaking - cleaner, greener, resilient neighbourhoods



**Wednesday 10 September and
Thursday 11 September 2025**

Glasgow Marriott

Join the conversation:

@apseevents #apse25

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Wednesday 10 September

Venue: Glasgow Marriott

11.00 Registration, coffee and exhibition hub

A rolling lunch will be served from 12.00

Exhibition and innovation hub

APSE has a range of services to assist local authorities to respond to the challenges of a rapidly changing environment.

This is an opportunity for delegates to attend drop-in surgeries with APSE experts in:

APSE Energy: Bespoke Local Authority Energy Collaboration

APSE Performance Networks: Largest voluntary public sector benchmarking service

APSE Solutions: High-quality consultancy and interim management services

APSE Training: Specialist training to support frontline local authority services.

Exhibition and innovation hub: Specialist local authority suppliers

13.00 Plenary session one

Local placemaking - cleaner, greener, resilient neighbourhoods

Opening welcome: Councillor Archie Dryburgh, APSE National Chair 2024/25

Opening the challenge panel Mo Baines, Chief Executive, of APSE will introduce a review of the year for local government and what we should look for in the coming year including finances, the local environment, public interest in procurement and insourcing.

Following these opening remarks the challenge panel will respond with their thoughts. The expert panel includes: -

- **Paul Belotti, Chief Executive, East Riding of Yorkshire Council**
- **Simon Aitken, Director for Communities, Derby City Council**

14.15 Coffee and Exhibition viewing

14.45 Session two

Frontline roundtable discussions

Delegates will have the opportunity to attend one of the following discussions:

Environmental services

Facilitators: Fiona Sutton-Wilson, Head of Training, APSE and Bonni Jee, Principal Advisor, APSE

- Waste
- Recycling
- Streetscene
- Fly tipping

Communities, housing and homelessness

Facilitators: Phil Brennan, Head of Energy, APSE and Vickie Hacking, Principal Advisor, APSE

- Building remediation post Grenfell
- New homes targets
- Building safety: Damp and Mould
- Tackling homelessness

Leisure, Parks and wellbeing

Facilitators: Lindsay Airey, Head of Business Resources, APSE and Matt Ellis, Principal Advisor, APSE

- Physical activity
- Energy costs in wet facilities
- Grassland management
- Tree strategies

Technical services, highways, transport and fleet

Facilitators: Debbie Johns, Head of Performance Networks, APSE and Abi Ademiluyi, Principal Advisor, APSE

- Potholes and complaints
- Litigation and costs
- Climate preparedness

16.00 Plenary session three

Keynote address:

**Introduced by Andrew Kennedy
APSE National Secretary 2024/25**

Making Local government finance work for our neighbourhoods and local economies

Professor Steve Griggs

Digital, Tech, Innovation & Business

University of Staffordshire



APSE Annual General Meeting 2025

16.30 Annual General Meeting

17.15 Close, refreshments and exhibition hub

19.30 Evening reception

Lord Provost Welcome to Glasgow

Hosted at the historic **Glasgow City Chambers**, including a tour, hot supper and refreshments



Programme

Thursday 11 September

Venue: Glasgow Marriott

9.00 Registration for new arrivals and exhibition viewing for all delegates including sector innovations

10.00 Plenary session four

Across the UK

Chair: Cllr Tracey Dixon, National Chair Elect

How local authorities in Scotland are delivering on their priorities

- A just transition to Net Zero
- Supporting fair growth and delivering for communities

John Wood, Director of Membership and Resources, COSLA

The future of local government in Northern Ireland

- Meaningful devolution of powers
- The policy challenges ahead

Allison Allen Chief Executive, NILGA

Where now for English local government

- The challenges of finances and local government reorganisation
- What we need to do to deliver for our communities

Lisa Trickey, Digital Adviser, LGA

Working with councils in Wales

- Wellbeing and a preventive approach to communities
- Creating sustainable neighbourhoods in Wales

Paula Walters (Head of Corporate Policy & Services) WLGA

Question time: An opportunity for a panel and audience Q and A

11.15 Coffee and Exhibition viewing

11.45 Plenary session five

Rising to the challenges

Devolution, Local Government Reorganisation and future models

Local Government Reorganisation: The District Council Perspective

- What does this mean for the future of local neighbourhood services?
- Impact of the changes to planning and the delivery of new homes

Cllr Richard Wright, Leader, North Kesteven and Chair of the District Councils Network

Local Government Reorganisation: A Chief Executive's Perspective

- Impacts on finances and resources
- Getting the culture right - taking the workforce on the transformation journey

Karen Bradford, Chief Executive, South Kesteven District Council

What's next after re-organisation: Lessons from Cumberland Council

- Embedding the new authorities culture and ethos
- Delivering effective and sustainable frontline services post reorganisation

Cllr Lisa Hinton, Deputy Leader and Darren Crossley, Director of place and economy

Question time: An opportunity for a panel and audience Q and A

13.15 Lunch and exhibition viewing

14.15 Plenary session six

Climate Innovation Shorts

Chair: Anita Brown, National Secretary Elect, APSE

Case studies of best practice, innovations, adaptations and mitigations

Presentations include:-

Solar PV on RCVs in Darlington

Margaret Enstone, Sustainability and Climate Change Lead Officer, Darlington Borough Council

School Safe Haven Zones reducing traffic congestion and air pollution an Innovative Approach

Robert Shoebridge, Group Manager, Derby City Council - Winner of the MJ, Best Service Team of the Year Award

Kerbside battery recycling

Julia Kerr, Technician Zero Waste, Dumfries and Galloway Council

15.15 Grill in the grill

The final refreshments will be taken through to the Grill room where our innovation presenters will be gathered in service hubs to answer your questions or swap contact details.

Make the most of this informal networking opportunity and a final opportunity to meet the exhibitors.

16.15 Seminar close

APSE Annual Service Awards and Charity Dinner 2025 Glasgow Marriott

19.00 Pre-dinner reception

19.30 Service awards dinner

Carriages from midnight

In aid of Parkinson's UK

Seminar Information

About the Event

This year, APSE's Annual Seminar and Service Awards Charity Dinner will take place in the vibrant and historic city of Glasgow on Wednesday 10 to Thursday 11 September 2025. Delegates will enjoy an opportunity to explore the regeneration of this wonderful city whilst gaining unique insight into how local councils can ensure their frontline services are green, clean, smart and sustainable.

One of the biggest events in the local government calendar, APSE's Annual Seminar offers frontline service providers the chance to learn from each other, network with sector experts and develop strategies for our vital local services. Delegates will get the opportunity to hear from industry-leading experts for across UK local government cover topic like:

Frontline services

- Refuse, recycling and street scene
- Leisure, health and wellbeing
- Parks, open spaces and playgrounds
- Cemeteries and crematoria
- Policy developments
- Local government finance: Fairness for frontline services
- Green energy, flooding and climate change
- Digitisation and demand management
- Place-making and regeneration

Who should attend?

This highly interactive conference is the must attend event for all those looking to future-proof the frontline including recovery for local economies, those seeking to develop strategies to and implement climate change objectives.

The event incorporates the APSE Annual General Meeting which we would encourage all member councils to attend, on Wednesday 10 September.

The Annual Seminar concludes with the APSE Service Awards Charity Dinner on Thursday evening, 11 September.

Booking information

Reserve your place at the Annual Seminar [here](#)

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